

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 ACDA-19 AF-10 DRC-01 /165 W

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R 171117Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1617

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 2622

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: UNGA, CE

SUBJ: KEY ISSUES AT 29TH UNGA

REF: (A) STATE 199150, (B) STATE 184584, (C) COLOMBO 2572

1. SUMMARY: EMBOFF MET WITH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MDFA) OFFICIALS ON SEPTEMBER 13 TO RUN DOWN ISSUES AT 29TH UNGA. THEY COMMENTED ON ONLY FEW ITEMS AND THEN MOSTLY IN GENERAL TERMS. BASIC GUIDELINES FOR GSL FOR UNGA APPEAR TO BE: A) AVOID CONTROVERSY TO EXTENT POSSIBLE; B) SUPPORT POSITIONS ADOPTED BY NON-ALIGNED GROUP; AMO C) SEEK SUPPORT FOR PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE'S INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE (IOPZ) PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY.

2. POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF COVERED ISSUES AT 29TH UNGA WITH MDFA'S DIRECTOR FOR UN AFFAIRS MANIKKALINGAM AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR KADIRAMALAINATHAN ON SEPTEMBER 13. AMBASSADOR HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED KHMER CREDENTIALS ISSUE WITH MDFA SECRETARY W.T. JAYASINGHE ON SEPTEMBER 11 (COLOMBO 2572). MDFA OFFICIALS HAD LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT.

3. KHMER CREDENTIALS: CEYLONENE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION
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FOR DETAILED INFORMATION AMBASSADOR GAVE SECRETARY

JAYASINGHE ON THIS ISSUE AND SAID GSL HAD NOT YET TAKEN FINAL DECISION ON ITS POSITION. UN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR ALSO NOTED THAT GSL HAD NOT BEEN ONE OF THOSE "ANXIOUS" TO RECOGNIZE SIHANOUK REGIME. COMMENT: CEYLONSE ASKED EMBOFF IF HE KNEW WHY CHINESE WERE NOT ACTIVELY LOBBYING FOR SEATING SIHANOUK REGIME IN UN THIS YEAR. EMBOFF SUGGESTED THEY ASK CHINESE. IF CHINESE ARE, IN FACT, HOLDING BACK ON THEIR SUPPORT, GSL'S POSITION MIGHT BE AFFECTED FAVORABLY, ALTHOUGH FUNDAMENTALLY IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR GSL NOT TO FOLLOW NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE GROUP POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. END COMMENT.

4. KOREA: EMBOFF PROVIDED U.S. POSITION ON THIS QUESTION AS WELL AS COPY OF TEXT OF FRIENDLY DRAFT RESOLUTION (USUN 3012), WHICH CEYLONSE HAD NOT RECEIVED. MANIKKALINGAM REPEATED LAST YEAR'S FORMULATION THAT GSL WILL DO NOTHING TO UNDERMINE PRINCIPLE THAT UN DOES HAVE ROLE TO PLAY IN SITUATIONS OF CONFLICT. COMMENT: OUR GUESS IS GSL MAY ABSTAIN ON HOSTILE RESOLUTION IF IT COMES TO VOTE. END COMMENT.

5. AFRICAN ISSUES: AFTER EMBOFF'S PRESENTATION OF U.S. POSITIONS, MANIKKALINGAM SAID GSL DID NOT PLAN TO TAKE LEAD ON ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS. HE MADE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT GSL WOULD SUPPORT ANY ACTIONS IN KEEPING WITH ALGIERS DECLARATION ISSUED AT END OF NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE, INCLUDING AID TO RHODESIA LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. ON SOUTH AFRICA'S CREDENTIALS, CEYLONSE DID NOT FEEL ANY CHALLENGE WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.

6. DISARMAMENT: FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF U.S. POSITIONS ON DISARMAMENT, MANIKKALINGAM SAID GSL WOULD LIKE TO SEE USG BE A LITTLE MORE FORTHCOMING THAN IN PAST TOWARD SRI LANKA'S IOPZ PROPOSAL. HE STATED THAT ANY INDICATIONS OF USG ENCOURAGEMENT OF PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE TWO ADVANTAGES: U.S. ATTITUDE WOULD EDGE OTHERS ALONG TOWARD GSL POSITION; AND IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN ATTEMPTS TO REDUCE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN POSITIONS OF LITTORAL COUNTRIES AND MAJOR MARITIME POWERS. MANIKKALINGAM NOTED SUCH U.S. APPROACH WOULD ALSO HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON U.S.-CEYLONSE BILATERAL REATIONS. EMBOFF SAID HE WOULD PASS MANIKKALINGAM'S COMMENTS BACK TO WASHINGTON.

7. HOUSEKEEPING ISSUES: CEYLONSE OFFERED NO SPECIFIC

REMARKS ON ANY OF THESE ISSUES BUT TOOK DOWN U.S. POSITIONS. GENERAL COMMENT WAS THAT GSL IS IN

FAVOR OF MOST ECONOMICAL UN USE OF ITS RESOURCES.

VAN HOLLEN

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